

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
5 February 2004 (05.02.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/011792 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: F16C 07/00 (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US2003/023542 (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(22) International Filing Date: 28 July 2003 (28.07.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data: 60/398,707 26 July 2002 (26.07.2002) US

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(54) Title: CONNECTING ROD APPARATUS & METHOD

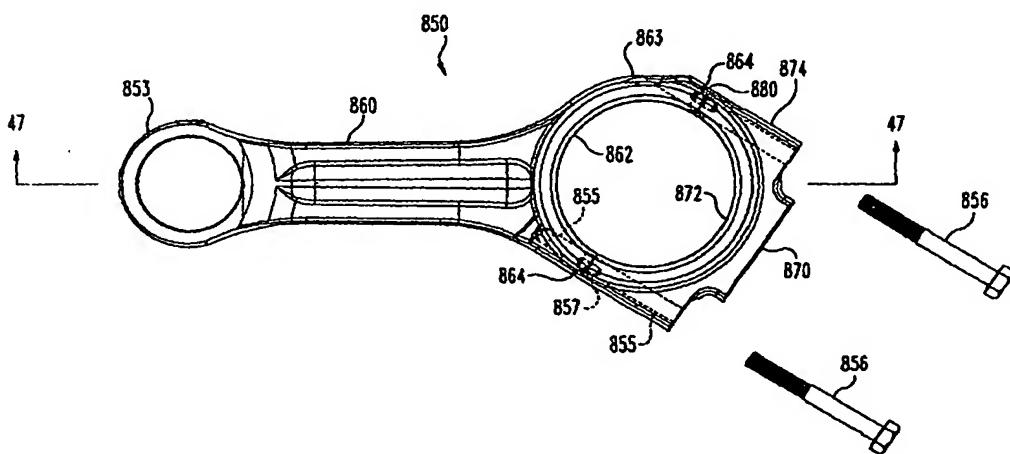
Published:

- with international search report
- with amended claims

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 1 July 2004

Date of publication of the amended claims: 2 September 2004

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



WO 2004/011792 A3

(57) **Abstract:** An improved two-piece connecting rod (800) that connects a reciprocating piston with a crankshaft in an internal combustion engine. The connecting rod (800) has a shank portion (810, 860), a cap portion (820, 870) and projections (830, 880, 882) extending from one or both of the shank (810, 860) and cap portions (820, 870). When the shank (810, 860) and the cap (820, 870) are connected, the projections (830, 880, 882) mate with the opposite side with an interference fit, thereby resisting relative motion between the shank (810, 860) and the cap (820, 870) along the split-line (A').